

cusses recent advances in percussion and auscultation of the chest; this is followed by a consideration of pulmonary edema, emphysema, pulmonary surgery, mountain sickness, compressed air illness, common colds, asthma, and an exhaustive review of the subject of *atmotheapeutics*. Under the heart and great vessels he discusses the various newer instruments of precision, certain physical signs that have recently attained importance, some interesting cardiac affections including paroxysmal tachycardia and "cardiac asthma," and heart treatment. He concludes with several pages devoted to a number of affections of other mediastinal organs.

William S. Gottheil calls attention to recent advances in dermatology and syphilis in a contribution of 40 pages. Among many interesting subjects considered are: Blue atrophy of the skin from cocaine injections, the early diagnosis of cancer of the skin, chancreoid vaccine, the rational treatment of furunculosis, pruritus ani, and lichen planus in the negro. The last quarter of his article deals entirely with syphilis.

The contribution on obstetrics is furnished by Edward P. Davis, who devotes 150 pages to this important subject. He first takes up the diagnosis of pregnancy; then the urine in pregnancy; various phases of the toxemia of pregnancy; gestation complicated by tuberculosis and various other conditions; as well as many other important phases of the subject, notably eclampsia and placenta prævia. Under labor he discusses among other things labor during adolescence; complications of labor; and the treatment of labor complicated by operation for anteifixation. The uterine muscle, abortion, and pituitrin are also considered and his excellent *resume* of the subject concludes with interesting sections on obstetric surgery, the puerperal period, and affections of the newborn.

The final chapter of the volume is by William G. Spiller, from whom we have learned to expect without fear of disappointment an able discussion of diseases of the nervous system. His present review of the subject embraces 52 pages and is fully up to the high standard he has set in all his previous contributions. G. M. P.

THE PITUITARY BODY AND ITS DISORDERS. CLINICAL STATES PRODUCED BY DISORDERS OF THE HYPOPHYSIS CEREBRI. By HARVEY CUSHING, M.D., Associate Professor of Surgery in the Johns Hopkins University, Professor of Surgery (elect) Harvard University. An amplification of the Harvey Lecture for December, 1910. Pp. 341, with 319 illustrations. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1912.

DR. CUSHING with his usual originality has succeeded in arousing the attention of the medical profession. He has collected an

enormous amount of material regarding the pituitary body much of which is original and the result of careful clinical observation and experiment. Not all the statements that he makes in all probability will be confirmed by further study, but of this fact he is keenly aware. His book is that most valuable of all forms of medical publications, a painstaking monograph, and should appeal to many classes of the medical profession, to the physiologist, to the surgeon, and above all to the clinician.

The four main types of pituitary disease are gigantism and acromegaly produced respectively it is supposed by overaction of the pituitary gland in youth and in adult life; infantism and adiposity produced by the deficient action of the gland before and after puberty. Combinations occur and we are not yet able to differentiate with precision all the functions of the different parts of the gland, but at least the material available for our knowledge has been presented in a clear and logical manner.

The number of illustrations is remarkable, but they are all illustrative and there is actually no padding, a fault that few medical books escape. Perhaps the most useful original communication is the attempt to devise a method of administering pituitary extract in a rational and adequate manner to cases needing it. A few typographical errors have crept in, but they do not apparently in any instance mar the clearness of the text. The taste of the reviewer is against the splitting of the infinitive but Dr. Cushing appears to prefer it. It has at least the authority of frequent usage at the present day.

The work is a distinct contribution to medical literature, perhaps one of the most notable of the year.

J. S.

DISEASES OF THE STOMACH WITH ESPECIAL REFERENCE TO TREATMENT. By CHARLES D. AARON, Sc.D., M.D., Professor of Gastro-enterology and Adjunct Professor of Dietetics in the Detroit College of Medicine; Professor of Diseases of the Stomach and Intestines in the Detroit Post-graduate School of Medicine, Consulting Gastro-enterologist to Harper Hospital. Pp. 555, with 42 illustrations and 21 plates. Philadelphia and New York: Lea & Febiger.

DR. AARON has contrived to write a work upon diseases of the stomach and to avoid more or less completely the conventional lines of the text-book. The material that he has included is somewhat unusual and it almost seems as if he had kept a notebook in which he recorded various things that might be useful in his practice and had later incorporated the best of these in his book.